

CLAIMS

1. A printing device, comprising:
a detector configured to detect when a first replaceable component needs
5 to be replaced;
an orderer configured to automatically order a second replaceable
component to replace the first replaceable component; and
an order tracker configured to receive order tracking information
regarding the second replaceable component order.
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2. The printing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the order
tracker is further configured to store the order tracking information in an order
tracking database.
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3. The printing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the order
tracking information further comprises a shipped date on which the second
replaceable component was shipped.
4. The printing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the order
20 tracking information further comprises a received date on which the second
replaceable component was received.
5. The printing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the order
tracking information further comprises an unavailable message that indicates
25 that the second replaceable component is unavailable for shipment.

6. The printing device as recited in claim 1, wherein the order tracking information further comprises a backorder message that indicates that the second replaceable component is backordered for shipping on a backorder shipping date.

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7. The printing device, as recited in claim 1, wherein the order tracker is further configured to initiate a warning message if the order tracker has not received order tracking information indicating that the second replaceable component has been received prior to an expected receipt date.

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10. The printing device as recited in claim 1, wherein:
the first replaceable component is a laser printer toner cartridge;
the second replaceable component is a laser printer toner cartridge; and
the detector is a toner low detector that indicates when toner contained
15 in the first toner cartridge is nearing depletion.

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11. One or more computer-readable media containing computer-executable instructions that, when executed on a computer, perform the following:

receiving notice that a replacement printing device replaceable
5 component should be ordered to replace a printing device replaceable component that is nearing or has reached the end of a functional life cycle;
placing an order for the replacement replaceable component; and
receiving order tracking information regarding the replacement printing
device replaceable component order.

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12. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11,
further comprising storing the order tracking information.

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13. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11,
15 wherein the order tracking information further comprises a shipped date on which the replacement printing device replaceable component was shipped.

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14. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11,
wherein the order tracking information further comprises a received date on
20 which the replacement printing device replaceable component was received.

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15. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11,
wherein the order tracking information further comprises an unavailable
message that indicates that the replacement printing device replaceable
25 component is unavailable for shipment.

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16. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11, wherein the order tracking information further comprises a backorder message that indicates that the replacement printing device replaceable component is backordered for shipment on a backorder shipping date.

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17. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11, further comprising initiating a warning message if the replacement printing device replaceable component has not been received prior to the occurrence of an expected receipt date.

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20. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11, wherein the printing device replaceable component and the replacement printing device replaceable component are laser printer toner cartridges.

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21. A laser printer that embodies the one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 11.

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22. A laser printer, comprising:

memory;

a processor;

a replaceable component;

5 a detector configured to detect when the replaceable component is at or nearing the end of a life cycle;

an orderer configured to automatically order a replacement component for the replaceable component when the detector detects that the replaceable component is at or nearing the end of a life cycle; and

10 an order tracker configured to receive order tracking information regarding the replacement component order.

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23. The laser printer as recited in claim 22, further comprising an order tracking database stored in the memory, and wherein the order tracker is further
15 configured to store the order tracking information in the order tracking database.

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24. The laser printer as recited in claim 22, wherein the order tracking information further comprises a shipped date on which the replacement
20 component was shipped.

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25. The laser printer as recited in claim 22, wherein the order tracking information further comprises a received date on which the replacement component was received.

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26. The laser printer as recited in claim ¹⁸22, wherein the order tracking information further comprises an unavailable message that indicates that the replacement component is unavailable for shipment.

5 27. The laser printer as recited in claim ¹⁸22, wherein the order tracking information further comprises a backorder message that indicates that the replacement component is backordered for shipment on a backorder shipping date.

10 28. The laser printer as recited in claim ¹⁸22, wherein the order tracker is further configured to generate a warning message if the replacement component is not received by an expected receipt date.

15 29. The laser printer as recited in claim ¹⁸22, wherein the replaceable component is a toner cartridge.